

## INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

This material contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Laws, Title 18, U.S.C. Secs. 793 and 794, the transmission or revelation of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

S-E-C-R-E-T  
NOFORN

COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT		25X1
SUBJECT	Koethen Airfield	DATE DISTR.	8 July 1955	
DATE OF INFO.		NO. OF PAGES	2	25X1
PLACE ACQUIRED		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD	
DATE ACQUIRED		REFERENCES		

This is UNEVALUATED Information

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

### 1. Aircraft Counts

- a. 19 April 29 MiG 15's including at least 4 U-MiG's  
b. 12 May 34 MiG 15's including 4 U-MiG's

### 2. Aircraft Details

#### c. Dispersal

- 19 April 12 MiG 15's were parked before the two easterly hangars  
5 MiG 15's were parked before the two westerly hangars, maintenance work being in progress on these aircraft.  
8 MiG 15's and 4 U-MiG 15's were parked in a line adjoining the northern side of the eastern end of the runway. These MiG 15's were fitted with auxilliary wing tanks.  
12 May 16 MiG 15's were parked before the two easterly hangars, 8 before each hangar.  
8 MiG 15's were parked in groups before the westerly hangars.  
6 MiG 15's and 4 U-MiG 15's were parked in a line along the northern edge of the runway. As far as could be ascertained all MiG 15's in this latter group were fitted with auxilliary wing tanks.  
No MiG 15's were parked in the alert position at the end of the runway.

### 3. Flying Activity

- a. 19 April: Between 1300 and 1800 hours all 12 aircraft parked along the northern side of the runway took part in local flying. During this period it was observed that these aircraft took off in pairs, consisting of one MiG 15 and one U-MiG 15, followed at an interval of approximately 500 meters

S-E-C-R-E-T

NOFORN

STATE	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC						
-------	------	---	------	---	-----	---	-----	--	-----	--	--	--	--	--	--

(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#")

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

S-E-C-R-E-T  
NOFORN  
- 2 -

25X1

by a similar combination. The two pairs of aircraft climbed out of sight in a westerly direction returning to the airfield and landing after a period of between 25 and 30 minutes.

25X1  
25X1

After a period of about 45 minutes, during which time these four aircraft were refuelled, both pairs took off once more returning to the airfield and landing after a period of 30 minutes. At 2100 hours, two MiG 15's or U-MiG 15's took off one behind the other and climbed up to a height of about 1500 feet above the airfield. Shortly afterwards, a MiG 15 with red and blue navigation lights was observed over-flying the town of Koethen, the aircraft being immediately illuminated by a single searchlight as it neared the airfield at a height of approximately 1500 meters. As soon as the aircraft was lit up, a second MiG not showing any form of light was observed to dive on to the other MiG. The searchlight was immediately shut off and after a period of approximately five minutes the entire operation was repeated. In both cases the searchlight lit up the target as soon as it was switched on, giving the impression that it had been tracking the aircraft beforehand. Both aircraft landed between 2120 and 2123 hours. Local residents stated that similar interception exercises had been observed on several occasions since early April.

- b. 12 May: Between 1400 and 1830 hours, local flying was undertaken by the 10 aircraft drawn up along the northern edge of the runway. As on 19 April two pairs of MiG 15's and U-MiG 15's flew together

25X1  
25X1

Both pairs of aircraft took off with an interval of about 500 meters between each combination, disappearing out of sight in a westerly direction but returning and overflying the airfield approximately 15 minutes later, once more flying out of sight in an easterly direction and landing 10 minutes later.

#### 4. Radio/Radar

No changes have been observed on any of the radio or radar installations on this airfield. The following equipment was positively identified:

- a. A single-masted MF beacon was located at MR 067 344. This site was linked to the eastern end of the runway by a line of seven red obstruction lights.
- b. A normal VHF Disc Cone consisting of two concentric rings with a wire mesh cage array in between was mounted on a single mast at MR 059 346. Approximately four to five meters due east there was a similar mast secured by three pairs of guy wires, this second mast being without any type of aerial array whatsoever. A 2-axled radio van was parked in between the two masts.
- c. A second identical VHF Disc Cone surmounting a single mast at MR 058 342. A 2-axled radio van was likewise parked at the base of this mast.
- d. A Kniferest was located in front of the cluster of aircraft revetments at MR 050 350. A Fishnet was located approximately 40 meters east of the Kniferest.
- e. Two other Fishnets were observed at MRs 058 352 and 048 342.

#### 5. AA Defenses

At approximately MR 056 342 there was an AA battery consisting of six Bofors type 40 cm caliber AA guns, all in sandbagged emplacements and covered by tarpaulins.

25X1

Comments: All map references are taken from GERMANY 1:25000 sheet No. 4237 AMS series M 841 third edition.

25X1

S-E-C-R-E-T  
NOFORN

FLASH